

Manville Fire District – Minutes February 10, 2015

Date of Meeting: February 10, 2015

Time of Meeting: 7:00pm

Place of Meeting: Manville Fire Department

112 Old Main Street

Manville, RI 02838

1. Pledge of Allegiance – Lead by Chairman Lake

2. Roll Call of Officers-

Present – Warden Paul McKeon - arrived at 7:09 PM

Warden Ron McKenna

Warden James Akers

Chairman Bob Lake

Clerk Lee Lamothe

Absent – Chief Peter Adam

Warden Jerry St Germain

3. Motion to approve previous meeting minutes

Warden McKenna makes a motion to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2015 regular meeting as they are presented. Second by Warden Akers. Approved 3 – 0 – 0

4. Reports

a. Chairman Report & Communications – Chairman Lake mentions notification of a pending lawsuit that dates back to 2012. Our attorney has been unable to find it filed in court, but we expect

notification soon. Chairman Lake says he would like to save the truck discussion for later in the meeting.

b. Treasurer and Tax Collector Report – Treasurer McKenna says that tax collections are coming in at a slower rate than last year. The fire district has collected 79.7% of the taxes it is owed for 2014. Delinquencies total \$124063.89. He says that there are 33 property owners who are now delinquent for more than two years but two came in and paid today. He has notified our tax sale people because they send out the 90 day notices. There are 1310 delinquent taxes on motor vehicles that total \$73,855.23. The Treasurer points out the outstanding balance has grown each year and a portion of our billing of motor vehicle taxes seems uncollectable and at some point the board should review the balance and make abatements on this balance. It is extremely difficult to budget using motor vehicle taxes. The Treasurer has also included a statement of Assets which has a balance of \$752782.11 for February 2015. He also presents a report that shows we have expended \$44949.31 from the current fiscal years budget. The Capital Replacement account currently has \$364124.01. Treasurer McKenna says the auditors will be in on February 11, 2015 to do our yearly compilation.

1. NEWSPAPER AD

Warden Akers asks about advertisement for tax bill. Treasurer McKenna says there was no response. Motion to approve the Treasurer/Tax Collectors Report by Warden Akers. Seconded by Warden McKeon. Approved 3-0-1 (McKenna)

2. PROPOSED ABATEMENTS

LATE FEE ABATEMENTS: There were eight people who asked to have the collection fee or their late payment abated because they did not get their bill. The total is \$244.99. Motion made by Warden McKeon and seconded to by Warden Akers to abate the late fee for tax payments. Discussion: Warden McKeon asks what will happen if someone complains about the late fee now. Treasurer/Tax Collector answers that they will be denied after the 19th of February. Approved 3-0-1 (McKenna)

REGULAR ABATEMENTS: Treasurer/Tax Collector explains that these were asked for because the resident died or moved. Several bills are people who live in Albion and got our bill in error. The total of these abatement is \$1,178.31. Motion made by Warden McKeon and seconded by Warden Akers. Discussion: Chairman Lake asks the Tax Collector how much of his time is spent on the collection of automobile taxes vs property taxes. The Tax Collector says that autos are approximately 75% of his time. This is very time consuming. Approved 3-0-1 (McKenna)

c. Chief's report – The Chief is out sick so Chairman Lake reads Chief Adam's report.

There were 55 runs – 45 in Manville, 6 in Albion, 3 Woonsocket, 1 North Smithfield

29 EMS, 2 MVA, 20 Fire Calls, 4 Others

1 Mutual aid outside district – MFD very active in helping with Limerock Fire

3 Trainings. One ice rescue in the classroom, One ice rescue on ice, and One at the pool at Bryant College

Motion by Warden McKenna to accept the report as written. Second by Warden McKeon.

Approved 4-0-0

d. Auditors report – No Auditors report

5. Payment of Bills

Chairman Lake reads all the bills out loud. The total is \$13,741.16

Warden Akers asks about the Depault Hardware and Lowes bills. He wonders why we bought paint supplies at two places. Treasurer McKenna reviews the invoices and can see that we bought the supplies at Depault but the actual paint at Lowes. It is surmised that the paint was less expensive with a better variety at Lowes.

Warden McKeon then asks about a check to the National Security. The Chairman explains the Chief requested the there be an electronic fob system for the doors so that access can be turned off for people who should no longer have access. He received a few quotes and this system fit our needs.

Warden McKenna questions the invoice for McKinnon and Harwood. Chairman Lake tells him that this MFD attorney received a request for information from another attorney and questioned Chairman Lake. Chairman Lake was also unaware of this and asked that the MFD

attorney to check at Superior Court to see if anything had been filed against the MFD. Warden McKenna says that this particular line item cost \$450. Chairman Lake says something is in the works to be filed against the MFD (wardens and employees), it is from 2012 and we should expect it soon.

Chairman Lake questions check for Carbonite Backup just because he feels that he has seen it before. Warden McKenna says they use this to back up all the computers and Chairman Lake said there was no problem.

Motion made by Warden McKeon to pay the bills in the amount of \$13741.16. Warden Akers seconds. Payment of Bills is Approved 4-0-0

6. Income

Total of \$165.00 of income.

\$75.00 was a Plan and Review

\$90.00 was a donation by Ron McKenna to buy pizza for the members during the blizzard.

Motion made by Warden McKeon and second by Warden Akers to approve the income report.

Approved 4-0-0

7. Old Business

a. Policies and Procedures Sick Time Policy

The Chairman is going to work on this with the Chief. Warden

McKeon explains that this was brought to the old board by the Chief due to the extended absence of a salaried individual. The Chairman asks that this be tabled until the Chief is in.

b. ADA Building Study – Update

Chairman Lake says he will do a formal report for next month but full compliance will be difficult due to the confines of our building. He will do a report for next month.

8 New Business

Goals & Truck Update

Chairman Lake, the Chief, and the Wardens have prepared a statement of goals for a Five Year Plan for the MFD district and the Chair reads them to the public and for the record.

Written correspondence has been received from Chief Andrews of the Albion Fire District that we (the MFD) will have continued availability of the Albion ladder truck on an as needed basis for no fee.

Chairman Lake makes a motion that based on the letter from Chief Andrews and its formal acceptance by the Board, that the Board of Wardens indefinitely suspend the procurement process for the new ladder truck. The net potential savings to the taxpayers is between \$750,000 - \$850,000 plus interest over 10 years. Warden McKenna seconds.

Discussion: Warden McKeon talks about how the MFD built this nest egg to replace equipment that is now over 19 years old. MFD has only one good truck. The Chairman says that he has concerns with what will happen to the Manville taxpayers if there is a consolidation.

He feels that this is in the best interest of the fire district for the time being to minimize conflict. Warden Akers says he agrees with the Chair's decision.

Approved – Roll Call

Aye – Warden McKenna, Warden Akers, Chairman Lake

Nay – Warden McKeon

Absent – Warden St. Germain

Chairman Lake makes a motion that consistent with the previous motion and acceptance by the previous board, that the MFD consider the acquisition of a full size crew cab utility vehicle. By doing this we can reduce fuel costs and extend the useful life of our existing truck. Engine 10 will require immediate and costly repairs that are being priced at this time.

Warden Akers seconds this motion.

Discussion: Warden McKeon agrees with this

Vote to proceed as written-ROLL CALL

Aye- Warden Akers, Warden McKeon, Warden McKenna, and Chairman Lake

Nay- none

Absent – Warden St Germain

9. Public Comment

The Chair calls on Paul Armstrong. Mr. Armstrong asks about Motion # 2 by Chairman Lake. He doesn't believe that this was ever addressed by the previous board. Warden McKeon agrees although it

was informally discussed. Mr. Armstrong asks if the daytime people, when they respond to an EMS call in the utility vehicle, will have enough people to respond in truck for fire calls or will both trucks have to go out. The Chair says he does not know that at this point.

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10. Motion to Adjourn

Motion by Warden McKeon at 8:04 PM to adjourn. Seconded by Warden Akers . Approved 4 - 0 - 0

Date Agenda Posted SOS: 02/08/15 @10:00 am

Date of Meeting: 2/10/15

Posted : SOS,MFD Station, Manville Post Office,

Minutes submitted to Board: 3/10/2015

Approved Minutes posted on SOS: 3/15/2015

____**Bob Lake**_____

____**Lee**_____

Lamothe_____

Chairman

Clerk